

Calgary a Better Place to Start Careers

The Canadian labour market created 52,100 jobs in September 2012, on a month-over-month basis, the second consecutive month of increase:

- Total employment increased by 52,100 in Canada, but was unchanged in Alberta (+2,100) and the Calgary Economic Region (CER) (-2,100).
- In Canada, job gains in full-time positions (+44,100) were mainly among men aged 25 and over (+41,200). Part-time jobs created from new positions (+8,000) and left by workers moving into full-time (-14,500) were picked up by youths aged 15-24 (+10,600) and women aged 25 and over (+11,800).
- In Alberta, job gains in Transportation and warehousing (+8,100), Public Administration (+4,600) and Manufacturing (+4,100) were mostly offset by losses in Health care and social assistance (-8,900). Unemployment rates were 10 per cent for the youth and 3.4 per cent for the core aged workers.

According to the unadjusted 3-month-moving-average data, the following year-over-year changes were recorded in the CER in September 2012:

- Total employment increased by 16,200, mainly in the Forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas (+14,000) and Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing (+13,400) industries. The job losses were mostly in the Trade (-16,300) and Health care and social assistance (-12,200) industries.
- The unemployment rate was 5.1 per cent, compared to 6.1 per cent a year ago.

- The average hourly wage rate was \$28.16, a 6.6 per cent increase from \$26.41 last September.
- There were 8,970 people in the Calgary Metropolitan Area (CMA) receiving regular employment insurance benefits in July 2012, down by 8.2 per cent from 9,770 a year ago.

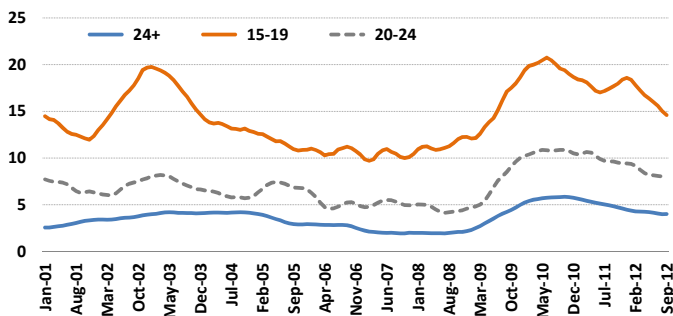
Calgary is a Better Place for Young People to Start Careers

Job opportunities, except being affected by business cycles, vary by age. It is much harder for the youth (aged 15-24) to find a job than those who are mature workers (aged 24+). Over the past decade in the CER, the unemployment rate for youth (aged 15-19) fluctuated from 11 per cent to 21 per cent, about 3 to 4 times the level of that for mature workers. The unemployment rate for people aged 20-24 ranged from 4 per cent to 11 per cent, about 1.4 to 3 times that of the mature workers (chart 1). This is understandable since years of skill and work experience vary directly with age and education.

Strong job creation in Alberta and the CER have provided youths with the best chances of finding employment. For example, this past summer, the labour market for full-time students (who were attending school full time in April and intend to return to school full time in the fall) were much more favourable in Alberta than in the rest of Canada (chart 2). The low unemployment rates meant that the students had more chances to find entry level summer jobs in the province, which helped them land permanent positions in the same or similar industries later.

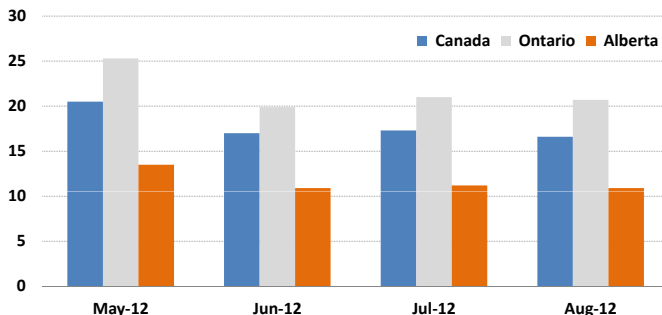
Next update: November 2, 2012

Chart 1. CER Unemployment Rate by Age Cohort
(12-month-moving-average, per cent)



Source: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, October 2012

Chart 2. Summer Labour Market for Full-time Student Aged 15-24
(Unemployment rate, per cent)



Source: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, October 2012

Labour Force Statistics

Economic Regions (Seasonally Adjusted 3-Month-Moving-Average)

	Description	Sep-12	Aug-12	Sep-11	Annual Change
Calgary	Working Age Population ('000)	1,141.7	1,138.8	1,114.2	27.5
	Labour Force ('000)	841.8	842.5	833.7	8.1
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	74.5	74.6	74.7	(0.3)
	Employment ('000)	800.5	802.6	784.5	16.0
	Employment Rate (%)	70.1	70.5	70.4	(0.3)
	Unemployment ('000)	41.7	41.1	47.1	(5.5)
	Unemployment Rate (%)	4.9	4.7	5.9	(1.0)
Edmonton	Working Age Population ('000)	1,030.0	1,027.1	1,003.3	26.7
	Labour Force ('000)	758.9	750.1	736.0	22.9
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	73.9	73.2	73.5	0.4
	Employment ('000)	725.9	717.7	694.4	31.5
	Employment Rate (%)	70.5	69.9	69.2	1.3
	Unemployment ('000)	33.1	32.6	41.7	(8.6)
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.3	4.3	5.6	(1.3)	
Alberta	Working Age Population ('000)	3,078.7	3,071.7	3,012.7	66.0
	Labour Force ('000)	2,253.3	2,248.5	2,231.4	21.9
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	73.1	73.2	74.0	(0.9)
	Employment ('000)	2,143.1	2,138.9	2,097.9	45.2
	Employment Rate (%)	69.6	69.7	69.6	0.0
	Unemployment ('000)	101.9	102.6	124.9	(22.9)
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.5	4.5	5.6	(1.1)	

Source: Statistics Canada, seasonally adjusted by Corporate Economics, October 2012

Who We Are

Corporate Economics provides services in four areas: forecasting, information provision, policy analysis and consulting. We also monitor the current economic trends which allows us to develop unique insights on how external events are impacting the local economy and the Municipal government. We are experienced at researching different economic topics and developed reliable methods of forecasting and analysis.

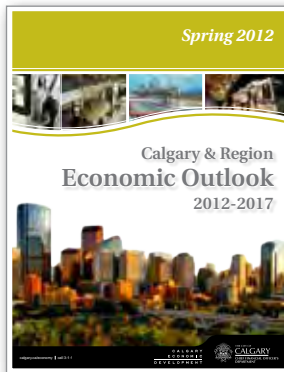
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- ▶ Labour Market Review
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- ▶ Current Economic Analysis
- ▶ Construction Inflation

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- ▶ A Case of Fiscal Imbalance: The Calgary Experience
- ▶ Diesel Fuel Price Pass-Through in Calgary
- ▶ Calgary Residential and Commercial Real Estate Markets

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Source: Statistics Canada and Corporate Economics